Implementation of new education policy

2073. SHRI N. E. BALA RAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many times the Secretary of his Ministry has gone abroad since the adoption of the new educational policy; and

(b) how these visits would affect the implementation of the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The Education Secretary was deputed abroad three times during the period to attend international meetings. Out of these three meetings, two were sponsored and funded by UNESCO and the third meeting was convened by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (Geneva—a specialised agency of the UN.

(b) These were important international meetings where representation of India at the level of Secretary was considered necessary. The Secretary's visits have a bearing on the objective of strengthening education's role for international cooperation and peaceful co-existence, as enunciated in the National Policy on Education, 1986.

Vacancy of Director (Languages) in the Ministry

2074. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the time since when the post of Director (Languages) in the Ministry has been lying vacant and what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) by when the appointment of an officer to the post would be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The post of Deputy Secretary/Director in the Languages Division of the Department of Education fell vacant in May, 1986. An IAS officer was selected for this post but his appointment could not materialise due to some administrative reasons.

(b) This post is likely to be filled up soon.

Central Port Authorities

2075. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Central Port Authority and Ports' Development Fund to streamline the functioning of various ports in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals are under examination by the Major Ports Reforms Committee. Details will be finalised on receipt of the report of the Committee.

Seting up of a Committee for Airport

2076. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a committee to examine the question of construction of new airports and improvements of existing airports in the country; and